

## Message Text

SECRET

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15 S

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01 ACDA-19 L-03 RSR-01

/082 W

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R 160937 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1866

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

S E C R E T TEHRAN 2450

KUWAIT ALSO POUCH ABU DHABI AND MUSCAT

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MASS, IR, SA

SUBJ: REPORTED LACK OF COOPERATION BETWEEN IRAN AND SAUDI  
ARABIA IN PERSIAN GULF

REF: TEHRAN 2355 ( NOTAL)

SUMMARY: PROMINENT IRANIAN SENATOR WHO IS CLOSE TO THE SHAH  
CITIES ARAB NEGATIVISM AND ESPECIALLY THAT OF KING FAISAL AS THE  
REAL OBSTACLE TO IRAN' S EFFORTS TO PROMOTE COOPERATION FOR  
SECURITY PURPOSES AMONG THE PERSIAN GULF LITTORAL STATES.  
END SUMMARY.

1. DURING APRIL 11 PRIVATE LUNCHEON WITH SENATE VICE PRESIDENT  
ABBAS AMSSOUDI, WHO IS CLOSE TO SHAH, MASSOUDI DESCRIBED IN  
CONSIDERABLE DETAIL HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH ARAB LEADERS OF  
PERSIAN GULF STATES DURING RECENT VISIT TO GULF. ( OTHER ASPECTS  
OF CONVERSATION REPORTED REFTEL.) COUNTRIES VISITED WERE QATAR,  
BAHRAIN, SULTANATE OF MUSCAT, AND EACH OF THE CONSTITUENT

SHEIHKDOMS, EXCEPT UMM AL- QAYWAIN, MAKING UP THE UNITED ARAB  
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EMIRATES. AT EACH STOP MASSOUDI URGED ON ARAB LEADERS VIRTUES OF A COLLECTIVE SECURITY ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN IRAN ON ONE HAND AND ARAB STATES ON THE OTHER TO ASSURE GULF SECURITY. REACTION OF ARAB LEADERS WAS THAT THEY UNABLE TO JOIN IRAN WITHOUT BLESSING OF KING FAISAL, WHICH HAD NOT BEEN FORTHCOMING. MASSOUDI DESCRIBED NEGATIVE ATTITUDE OF KING FAISAL AS EXTREMELY BOTHERSOME TO THE SHAH.

2. MASSOUDI CONTINUED THAT IRANIAN IDEAS RE GULF SECURITY DID NOT INCLUDE NECESSITY OF EACH ARAB STATE ACTUALLY COMMPATING MILITARY FORCES TO JOINT EFFORT. THOSE STATES NOT WISHING TO COMMIT TROOPS COULD PLEDGE A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT INSTEAD. ARAB LEADERS HAD EXPRESSED POLITE INTEREST IN SUCH A FLEXIBLE SYSTEM BUT HAD IMPLIED THAT KING FAISAL HAD VETOED ARAB SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS WITH IRAN.

3. MASSOUDI SEEMED BEMUSED BY SAUDI NEGATIVISM IN FACE OF WHAT MASSOUDI TOOK TO BE CLEAR MUTUAL NEED FOR ARAB- IRANIAN COOPERATION. SAUDIS HAD ALWAYS MADE POLITE SOUNDS TOWARDS IRAN BUT THEIR BASIC ATTITUDE IN AREA OF GREAT INTEREST TO IRAN WAS ESSENTIALLY UNCOOPERATIVE. THIS HAD BEEN FORCEFULLY BROUGHT HOME TO MASSOUDI FOUR MONTHS AGO DURING VISIT TO TEHRAN OF SAUDI MINISTER OF STATE OMAR SQQAF. THE LATTER HAD EXUDED GOOD WILL AND ARTICULATED ALL THE RIGHT EXPRESSIONS OF FRIENDSHIP, BUT ALL IRANIAN ATTEMPTS TO REACH AGREEMENT ON CONCRETE DETAILS HAD BEEN FRUSTRATED BY SAQQAF' S BLAND GENERALITIES.

HELMS

SECRET

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**TAGS:** MARR, MASS, IR, SA  
**To:** AMMAN  
JIDDA  
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